

TWO NEW MYRMECOPHILOUS HISTERIDAE.

BY H. C. FALL, PASADENA, CAL.

SOME two years ago I received from Prof. Cockerell a specimen of a minute *Hetaerius* taken by him at Boulder, Colorado, in the nest of a species of *Lasius*. Quite recently two more examples have been sent me by Prof. Cockerell, who expresses the hope that I may soon describe it, and remarking that he considers it "one of the sights of Boulder." It is indeed a very interesting and distinct little species, and I take pleasure in complying with the request of its discoverer. Advantage is taken of the opportunity to present also a description of a still more remarkable *Histeride* from California, for which it seems necessary to erect a new genus.

HETAERIUS MINIMUS n. sp.

Form of *brunnipennis* but smaller and of somewhat paler color. Head and entire upper surface somewhat sparsely, evenly, and very distinctly punctate, each puncture bearing a suberect fulvous hair. Head not obviously concave. Prothorax transverse, sides straight, convergent from the base to the oblique truncation of the anterior angles; lateral portions of the disk divided by a transverse impression at basal third, the posterior portion more convex, the anterior nearly flat, neither of them appreciably more closely punctured and pubescent than the median area. Elytra a little wider than the prothorax, marginal stria complete, the three discal striae fine, subequal in length, each nearly attaining the elytral apex. Propygidium sparsely finely punctate at base, becoming smooth at apex; pygidium impunctate or nearly so. Prosternum flattened and margined at summit from base two-thirds of distance to apex, the marginal lines sinuate between the coxae, diverging a little in front of them, and then converging and uniting just behind the subapical transverse impression; apical concavity of prosternum nearly horizontal. Femora about two-fifths as wide as long. Length $1\frac{1}{4}$ – $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Boulder, Colorado.

Three specimens from nests of "*Lasius* sp." May 2, and "*Lasius americanus*" March 23.

This is much smaller than any other known species of the genus in our fauna, but as already stated comes nearest *brunnipennis*. This latter differs in addition to size, in its much more remote and less conspicuous punctuation and pubescence,